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LETTER DATED 9 MAY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose a paragraph referring to the dispute between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the three Western States, which appeared in the communiqué issued by the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries held in Bandung, Indonesia, from 25 to 27 April 1995.

This is a clear and frank expression of support by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Countries of the Non-Aligned Movement for the position of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in the dispute between it and the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France, as is the request for the lifting of the sanctions imposed upon it by the Security Council as a result of resolutions 731 (1992), 748 (1992) and 883 (1993). These sanctions have significantly damaged the lives and property of the Libyan people, as well as causing serious losses to neighbouring peoples.

This expression of the will of the more than 111 States members of the Non-Aligned Movement, which has previously been supported by numerous international and regional organizations, forces us to ask the Security Council who adopted these resolutions. Who is it who insists on maintaining them? All these States, which represent the majority of the Members of the United Nations, are requesting the immediate lifting of the sanctions, the use of the methods laid down in the Charter of the United Nations to resolve the dispute and the application of international laws and practices. They are calling upon the Western States concerned in this dispute to respond to the positive initiatives made by the Jamahiriya, such as its agreement that its accused citizens should have a fair and impartial trial on neutral ground to be agreed by all parties through direct discussions under United Nations auspices.

If the Security Council does indeed represent all the States Members of the United Nations, why does it not respond to the call from these countries, which make up the majority of United Nations Members? Or does the Security Council in fact only represent the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France?

We are waiting to hear clear answers to these questions.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter and its annex as an official document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Mohamed Abulgassem AZWAI
Permanent Representative

Annex

41. The Ministers expressed their deep concern over the human and material losses sustained by the Libyan Arab people and by neighbouring States as a result of the sanctions imposed pursuant to Security Council resolutions 748 (1992) and 883 (1993). They affirmed that the escalation of the crisis, the threatened imposition of additional sanctions and the use of force as a way for States to deal with each other constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and international laws and precepts. They urged the Security Council to lift the air embargo and other measures imposed on Libya, in response to the resolutions adopted by regional organizations on the dispute. They expressed their solidarity with Libya and called upon the three Western States involved to respond to the positive initiatives calling for dialogue and negotiations and a fair and impartial trial of those accused, to be held in a neutral country agreed upon by all parties.